



INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

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May 18, 2000

Rec'd June 6, 2000
JSM

The Honorable David Miller
Mayor, Elkhart, IN
1201 S. Napanee St.
Elkhart, IN 46516

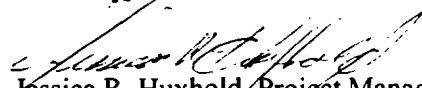
Re: Himco Dump Superfund Site

Dear Mayor Miller:

I am sending this letter to provide you with an update of the most recent events regarding the Himco Dump Superfund Site. Recently, residential well sampling conducted for houses southeast of the site revealed low levels of volatile organic compounds (VOCs) that do not represent a health risk at this time. It is my understanding that Gwen Massenburg of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) provided you with a copy of the results from that sampling event. The Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) and U.S. EPA will continue to work together to determine the magnitude and extent of any groundwater problem in your community.

IDEM offered bottled water to both those residents who were tested, and those around them in the event they were concerned with the safety of their water. This was done because the level of contamination did not meet the criteria necessary for U.S. EPA to initiate a response action. It was not mandatory that the residents accept the bottled water, and many residents indicated that they were already drinking bottled water and had been for some time. IDEM will continue to offer bottled water to residents that may be affected while additional sampling and investigation continues. As you may already be aware, IDEM and U.S. EPA representatives will be in Elkhart to discuss the sampling results individually with the residents on May 22. If you have any further questions about this issue or the site in general, please do not hesitate to call me at (317) 233-2823.

Sincerely,


Jessica R. Huxhold, Project Manager
Federal Programs Section
Office of Land Quality

JRH:mg

cc: Rex Osborn, IDEM
John Hulewicz, Elkhart County Health Department
Gwen Massenburg, U.S. EPA
Terry Coleman, IDEM Northern Regional Office